

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT County Administrator General Services Agency Planning and Building	(2) MEETING DATE 8/28/2012	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Dan Buckshi, County Administrative Office/805-781-5011 Janette Pell, General Services Agency/805-781-5200 Jason Giffen, Department of Planning and Building/805-781-5708	
(4) SUBJECT Report on the Comprehensive County Energy Strategy and direction on implementation of the EnergyWise Plan			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION That the Board of Supervisors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Receive and file the report on the Comprehensive County Energy Strategy 2) Provide direction to staff on the implementation of the EnergyWise Plan as set forth in this staff report 			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Various	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. 90 min__)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Reviewed by Leslie Brown			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dan Buckshi, Assistant County Administrator
Janette Pell, Director, General Services Agency
Jason Giffen, Director, Department of Planning and Building

DATE: 8/28/2012

SUBJECT: Report on the Comprehensive County Energy Strategy and direction on implementation of the EnergyWise Plan

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Receive and file the report on the County Energy Strategy
- 2) Provide direction to staff on the implementation of the EnergyWise Plan as set forth in this staff report

DISCUSSION

Summary

Over the past two years, your Board has adopted two documents that address energy efficiency and the increased use of renewable energy sources, the Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE) and the EnergyWise Plan (EWP). The COSE, adopted in 2010, includes an Energy chapter that contains goals, policies and implementation strategies addressing energy conservation and efficiency, sustainable energy supplies, renewable energy sources and green building. The EWP, approved in 2011, identifies measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that will also provide community benefits, such as lower energy bills, improved air quality, expanded economic growth and enhanced quality of life. Many of the measures in the EWP are consistent with the implementation strategies identified in the COSE Energy Chapter. These documents, as well as the County's participation in the Energy Watch Partnership with PG&E and Southern California Gas Company, have led to San Luis Obispo County's active engagement in a broad range of programs that will help improve energy efficiency in residential, commercial, industrial and municipal buildings.

For the past year, the Administrative Office, General Services Agency and Planning and Building have been working toward the development of a comprehensive energy strategy to, prioritize energy efficiency and renewable projects, determine staffing needs, identify funding opportunities, measure progress toward achieving the goals laid out in the COSE Energy chapter and the EWP and ensure effective coordination and collaboration between County Departments on energy conservation and efficiency initiatives.

The strategy focuses on four main areas:

1. **Education and outreach** - to the community related to the economic benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as the consumer benefits to customers who retrofit their homes and businesses. This includes making homes and businesses more comfortable in all seasons and saving energy and lowering energy bills.

2. **Providing regulatory relief** - for both distributed and utility-scale renewable energy projects, for example developing an ordinance to simplify permitting for small renewable energy developers and land owners who want to participate in this industry.
3. **Maximizing funding opportunities** - to bring down the cost of energy efficiency and renewable energy to consumers and to the County for its facilities (no or low interest loans, rebates, grants, etc.).
4. **Increasing the benefits for the rate payers in the county** - (in the form of utility financing of energy retrofits) as we all pay into energy efficiency programs through our utility bills.

Governance Framework

In order to best implement this comprehensive County Energy Strategy, the Administrative Office, General Services Agency and Planning and Building have developed a governance structure that consists of an Energy Executive Steering Committee (EESC) and an Energy Community of Interest (EnergyCOI). This governance structure follows the same governance structure used for both the Capital Improvement Program and the Information Technology Program. The EESC membership is made up of six managers from the Administrative Office, the General Services Agency and the Planning and Building Department. These organizations are most directly involved in the development and implementation of the County's Energy Strategy. The EnergyCOI is made up of staff from the Administrative Office, General Services, Planning and Building, and Public Works. The EnergyCOI will serve as the County's energy and renewable technology experts who will stay informed about technological developments, grant and other funding opportunities and the County's progress in reaching the goals outlined in the COSE and EWP. The EnergyCOI will develop proposed priorities and make recommendations to the EESC who will oversee the development, implementation and update of the County's energy strategy, while assuring effective coordination and collaboration in implementation of energy program activities. The EESC will also periodically provide updates to the Board of Supervisors on the County Energy Strategy.

As we move forward in implementing a County Energy Strategy, the EESC determined the first step needed to be a report to the Board that would summarize all the energy related efforts that have occurred or are currently on going. This report will also provide information to the Board regarding implementation of the EWP, consistent with the Board's direction provided on February 14, 2012.

Comprehensive Energy Strategy-Program Report

Energy Strategies Implemented

Community Programs

- **Energy Watch Partnership** - The San Luis Obispo County Energy Watch Partnership (EWP) provides resources and incentive funds to help businesses and public agencies to become more energy efficient. The Partnership is funded by California utility ratepayers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The EWP participants include: City of Arroyo Grande, City of Atascadero, City of Morro Bay, City of Pismo Beach, City of San Luis Obispo, County of San Luis Obispo, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Gas Company, and Economic Vitality Corporation.

The Partnership has carried out numerous marketing and outreach efforts to increase community knowledge and understanding of energy efficiency practices and programs. These efforts include community outreach campaigns, an Annual Energy Efficiency Month and Expo, a web portal with energy efficiency information, and energy tools and resources.

To actively engage the community, the County has reached out to residents and businesses by:

- Attending local events such as Farmer's Markets, Earth Day and Energy Fairs.
- Delivering Home Energy Kits in a reusable bag to County employees and to residents through local food banks. These kits contain compact florescent (CFL) light bulbs, information on utility rebate and incentive programs and a fact sheet with 10 ideas for reducing home energy use.
- Providing program literature displays at city and Community Services District offices.

The Annual Energy Efficiency Month and Expo each October works in collaboration with other local organizations to provide the community with practical resources for energy efficiency and renewable energy for homes and businesses.

An energy efficiency web portal was established through the County's website and provides information on programs, energy saving tips, contractors and energy professionals, training opportunities, and upcoming events. Additionally, the Partnership created a Kill-a-Watt EZ Meter Lending program through the county libraries to help residents measure the energy consumption from their appliances and a Tool Lending Library at Cuesta College, which provides affordable energy tools to energy specialists and installation professionals.

The Partnership also provides energy education and training opportunities to improve code compliance and provide code support on a regional basis. The training has included an Energy Retrofit Forum for contractors, Green Building and Energy Ordinance Training for advisory body members, community development and planning staff, a Lighting Expo, Title 24 Energy Code Training for regional building officials, a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certification class for facility operators, and Point of Sale training for large distributors of building products.

- **Rebates** - Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and Southern California Gas Company (SoCal Gas) provide rebates on energy efficient products for residents and business owners to help save money and reduce energy use. Residents have access to rebates for energy-efficient appliances, general home improvements, heating and cooling systems, lighting, etc. Commercial rebates are available across a variety of sectors and cover energy efficient products and systems for new construction, expansion, and remodels.

The following websites provide more information on these rebate programs:

- SoCal Gas
 - Residential: www.socalgas.com/for-your-home/rebates/
 - Commercial: www.socalgas.com/for-your-business/rebates/industry/
- PG&E
 - Residential: www.pge.com/myhome/saveenergymoney/rebates/
 - Commercial: www.pge.com/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/rebatesincentives/
- **PG&E Innovator Pilot** - The Innovator Pilot program is funded by a grant from PG&E. The goal of the program is to ensure that small and medium sized local businesses are both aware of and taking advantage of the numerous energy efficiency programs and rebates that are available. Activities associated with this pilot program include testing existing commercial buildings for energy efficiency then demonstrating and measuring innovative ways to deliver energy savings. This pilot program will investigate the concept of "group purchasing of energy efficiency" for small and medium businesses. In addition, it will provide an energy dysfunction prediction tool to address those businesses that are often overlooked due to small size of their facility, budget restrictions, or their location away from the state's major metropolitan regions.. The resulting success of the Pilot Program can be replicated with other rural communities who likely face similar issues and can benefit from new screening for energy efficiency. Project staff will share their success at state, regional, and local conferences and by leveraging the networks of the Energy Watch Partnership.

County Operations

- **Conservation Programs** - The General Services Agency has the overall responsibility for maintaining and managing County-owned buildings. The County currently operates an inventory of buildings totaling approximately 1.4 million square feet ranging in age from mid-1900's vintage (such as the Old Courthouse) to more contemporary buildings (such as the New Government Center). General Services' role as the County facility manager also involves an energy efficiency component. To accomplish the mission of efficient use of energy, the position of Utility Coordinator was created approximately ten years ago. The General Services Utility Coordinator has the challenge of developing, administering and coordinating the County's internal energy management programs including utility purchase and usage. This position also manages energy conservation grants and rebate programs related to County facility operations. Participation in the newly formed EnergyCOI will provide the needed input from the County facility viewpoint for energy planning, conservation and monitoring measures and overall energy consumption by County operations. All building renovation projects include a review by the Utility Coordinator to identify opportunities for incorporating energy conservation measures.

These efforts have saved the County substantially since the program's inception. Savings include the completion of approximately one hundred and thirty (130) energy conservation and efficiency projects covering forty-nine (49) facilities. Many of the projects were inclusion activities where efficiency opportunities were discovered within other projects being completed for other reasons. Because these energy efficiency measures were often installed as part of a larger project, the cost to implement these measures has been difficult to determine. Larger projects were completely focused on energy efficiency; such as the recent Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funded projects to replace Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) units with high performing models, and lighting upgrades.

Conservation efforts over the past ten years have generated approximately \$651,500 in energy rebates. Annual savings are estimated at \$591,100 and total electrical use avoidance amounts to over 5,835,000 kilowatt hours (kWh). In terms of greenhouse gas emission reductions, the US Environmental Protection Agency identifies this as equivalent to the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions generated from electricity use in 502 single-family homes for one year. Savings from our energy efficiency efforts (in both dollars and greenhouse gas reductions) will continue throughout the life of each installation.

Sources of funding for these projects have been varied:

- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provided \$2,053,600 of which \$1,034,122 was used for energy efficient projects. The remaining funds were utilized by the Planning and Building Department and the Public Works Department for various programs.
- General Fund through the County Wide Energy and Water conservation fund (FC 200) provided \$292,345.
 - Energy efficiency efforts through the General Fund are often part of a larger project with the energy efficiency costs not segregated from the aggregated cost of the total project.
- Energy Watch Partnership (EWP) also partnered with General Services to provide several energy efficient projects. The value of those projects is not easily measured as EWP performed the installations at no cost to the County and did not report the project material values.

During the same ten year period, additional facilities have been built or had square footage added resulting in energy growth. Without our continual effort to conserve, County facilities would have used considerably more energy than is used today. General Services sees additional opportunities for energy efficiency improvements, use of renewable energy and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Exhibit A provides a list of energy conservation projects completed to date.

- **Energy Conservation Monitoring and Reporting** - To monitor and measure the County's progress toward achieving the goals of the Board approved EnergyWise Plan (EWP), a cross-functional team comprised of staff from Planning and Building, the General Services Agency, Public Works and the Administrative Office are developing a tracking and reporting protocol. The goal of this protocol is to ensure that results achieved from implementing various energy saving and emission reduction measures identified in the EWP are captured and counted. As part of the preparation of the EWP, a monitoring and reporting "tool" was developed to track implementation of County operations and community wide energy efficiency activities. The EnergyCOI is currently identifying the critical indicators that will be tracked on an annual basis in order to calculate progress toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 15% below 2006 levels by the year 2020 (the target identified in the Conservation and Open Space Element). A report will be prepared each year for the Energy Executive Steering Committee's review, identifying the measures that have been implemented and the resulting greenhouse gas emissions, energy savings and operating cost reduction that have been achieved. The EESC will provide periodic updates to the Board, as warranted.
- **Alternative Work Schedule Policy** - At the direction of the Board, the County established an Alternative Work Schedule Policy, effective April 2010 designed to reduce employee commute trips. Research indicates that approximately 67% of emissions produced by the County are related to employee commutes to and from work. Employees working an alternative work schedule are able to reduce their number of commute trips by approximately 25 to 48 trips per year. There are two options available under the Alternative Work Schedule policy. The first is a flexible work schedule which allows employees to work either a 9x80 or a 4x10 workday. Employees working the 9X80 schedule work nine hour days and take a regular day off every other Friday. Employees working the 4x10 schedule work four ten hour days and take Friday off each week. The second option is telecommuting, which allows employees to work at remote locations away from the office (such as their home), thus reducing the need for them to commute to and from their normal work place. Under this policy, Department Heads have the discretion to offer either of these options to his or her employees as long as the operations of the department or service to its customers are not impacted.

In FY 2011-12, there were 195 employees working the 9x80 schedule and 367 employees working the 4x10, which translates into a reduction of approximately 24,200 commute trips and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 285 MTeCO₂ (metric tons equivalent carbon dioxide). Also, approximately 895 days of telecommuting were recorded in FY 2011-12, which translates into a reduction of approximately 895 commute trips and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 10.52 MTeCO₂.

Energy Strategies Under Development

Community Programs

- **Green Building Ordinance** - On October 19, 2009 the Department of Planning and Building received an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) which allowed the County to begin work on a proposed Green Building Ordinance. In 2010, after direction from the Board of Supervisors to pursue the ordinance, the County conducted five public outreach meetings which allowed staff to receive comments before work on the ordinance was undertaken. Based on many of those comments, the County organized a technical committee of volunteers in the community who were able to provide specific technical expertise in drafting the ordinance language. This committee was comprised of builders, representatives of the Home Builders Association, engineers, representatives of the American Institute of Architects, electrical engineers, planners, city officials, as well as members of the local green building community. The ordinance is currently scheduled for the Board of Supervisors Hearing at today's meeting.

- **Empower Central Coast** - The idea behind “Empower Central Coast” would be to create a comprehensive financing program for energy efficiency that provides a voluntary and affordable way to upgrade the energy efficiency and comfort of single-family homes. This program would provide unsecured, low-interest loans with flexible loan repayment terms to help homeowners finance energy saving improvements that reduce energy use and utility bills, improve property values, and increase home comfort. A program currently exists in Santa Barbara County (Empower Santa Barbara County) and Santa Barbara County is in the process of evaluating expansion of the program into San Luis Obispo and Ventura Counties. Assuming that expansion is feasible, a Memorandum of Understanding will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at a later date for approval to accept funding from Santa Barbara County to market this program in our county. No additional County money would be required to administer an expanded program. Any additional County cost is planned to be offset by outside revenue.

County Operations

- **Pilot Project – Honor Farm** - General Services has identified a pilot project to demonstrate the effectiveness of renewable energy. The project is to install Photovoltaic (PV) Thermal panels at the Honor Farm Laundry. A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued to solicit bids for the project. The project will be roof mounted panels that provide both heated water and electricity to the laundry and kitchen complex.
 - The total project cost is estimated at approximately \$165,000
 - A rebate is available for approximately \$65,000
 - Total net cost to the County is estimated at \$100,000
 - The Gas cost avoidance savings are estimated at \$4,550/year
 - The Electricity cost avoidance savings are estimated at \$4,318/year
 - The Green House Gas savings are estimated at 85,000 lbs./year
 - The payback time is estimated at approximately 11 years

The Honor Farm is located at 880 Oklahoma Ave., San Luis Obispo and is the third largest natural gas user among General Services’ County facilities. A large portion of the natural gas is used for hot water for the kitchen and laundry facility. The kitchen hot water is served by a boiler and the laundry water is heated by a series of hot water heater/storage tank systems. The systems use 44,000 therms per year at a cost of nearly \$35,000/year. Installing a 36 module solar collector system could provide a combined savings of approximately \$8,868/year which provides just over an 11 year payback after the rebate. Systems of this type generally have a life span of approximately 20 years. The anticipated 11 year payback cycle is an improvement over previous generation solar panels. We have found that the industry is continuously improving the performance and longevity of solar panels.

Additional facilities that may benefit from this concept are the Parks campground showers, Main/Female jails, Animal Services and all buildings with substantial hot water use. This pilot project will demonstrate the feasibility and savings we expect to achieve.

- **Fleet Emissions Reduction Policy** – General Service Agency is developing a policy that will address reduction in fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions from the County’s fleet vehicles. The policy would set out decision making criteria when replacing fleet assets with consideration of vehicle capabilities, lifecycle cost, availability of purchase capital and the availability of alternative fuels, parts and trained service technicians. This policy will be brought to the Board within the next few months.

- **Other Potential Renewable Energy Projects**

- Facilities

Several other sites may be appropriate for renewable energy projects. The construction of the Creston Fire Station was just completed. Discussions are underway to determine if solar panels can be added to help offset the cost of electricity at the station. We are also exploring the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of using solar panels once the projects to expand the Women's Jail and Juvenile Services Center are complete.

Preliminary studies were conducted three years ago which identified several viable sites for the installation of electricity generating solar panels. General Services is conducting more in-depth studies on selected sites to identify the most feasible projects to bring to your Board.

- Lease of Vacant Land

The General Services Agency – through Real Property Services, manages the vacant parcels in the County inventory. Many of the parcels are unusable remnants or property acquired through the tax default process. Through the Capital Improvement Executive Steering Committee (CI-ESC) a sub-committee was established to look at County-owned vacant property to determine if there were parcels of adequate size to meet departmental needs or if potential programmatic growth would drive the need to acquire additional land. The sub-committee developed a GIS map to identify all of the vacant parcels and remnants to assist in this process. This information could also be used to explore other options for County owned vacant land.

One concept is to lease unneeded parcels to private entities for the installation of solar generated electricity stations. The County would derive the benefit of a lease income while the generation of solar energy may benefit the community at large.

This is an interesting concept that requires further study. Some questions/issues that remain unresolved include:

- Means of leasing – potentially there is a requirement to solicit tenants through the RFP process, meaning the potential parcels would have to be batched and leased to the successful firm.
- Terms of lease – most installations of this type have a useful life of 20+ years. Is the County willing to commit to forgo the use of land for that period of time?
- Sizes of parcels – most solar installations have a minimum size requirement to make it economically viable. Small remnants would not be beneficial – only the larger parcels, which may have potential for future County Departmental program growth.
- Land Use issues – this would involve permitting through the Planning and Building Department
- Adjacencies and locations – would a solar array on some parcels create a problem with adjacent land owners or businesses? Is the location feasible for solar?

Opportunities for Future Energy Strategies

- **Incentivizing energy efficiency and renewable clean energy projects** - In the future the County will continue to evaluate opportunities to provide incentives for individual property owners to use alternative energy sources and for the creation of renewable energy projects. Many of the ideas are outlined in this report.

In addition, other concepts will continue to be developed including, but not limited to:

- “E-permitting” for roof top solar
 - Lower permit fees for renewable energy development
 - New financing and rebate programs
 - Evaluating land use permit levels for certain renewable energy development
- **Small Renewable Energy Projects in Rural Areas** - California law requires that, by 2020, one-third of the State’s electricity come from renewable energy sources. Governor Brown envisions 12,000 megawatts (MW) of energy produced from localized distributed electricity generation and 8,000 MW of large-scale renewable projects throughout the State. The timely expansion of renewable energy, specifically solar energy, is a key part of the solution. On average, one MW of solar energy production requires approximately six acres of land and can provide electricity for around 750 homes.

San Luis Obispo County demonstrated its commitment to renewable power by approving two large utility scale solar projects (800 MW on located on the Carrizo Plain) and by promoting distributed and rooftop solar. In support of rooftop solar development, the Board waived up to \$100,000 in building permit fees for Grid Alternatives to install photovoltaic systems on affordable housing. Despite the Board’s previous actions, the efficiency at which the County can process additional renewable energy sources, including small-scale solar energy facility (SEF) projects is hampered by outdated plans, policies and rules. Staff is prepared to update the County’s regulations and streamline the review process for SEF projects should this be deemed a priority of the Board.

In San Luis Obispo County, we have seen an increased interest in permit applications for SEFs. Most of these permit applications have been proposed or are being considered for development in rural areas, with land use constraints such as agricultural lands or wildlife habitat. In light of the increasing number of applications and land use limitations, staff has begun to look ways to streamline the processing of SEFs in our County, while balancing renewable energy development with resource protection.

Over the past year, staff participated in a statewide working group to develop a Model SEF Permit Streamlining Ordinance (Model Ordinance) and a companion Model SEF Permit Streamlining Guide (Guide). Both the Model Ordinance and the Guide were adopted by the California Counties Planning Directors Association with the intent of giving counties a model to start with that could be customized to meet individual counties goals.

In tandem, staff has been engaged in discussions on future funding opportunities that could finance a programmatic approach to streamline and even incentivize renewable energy development. Specifically, staff has provided input to the California Energy Commission’s Electric Program Investment Charge, known as the EPIC Program. The EPIC Program is a triennial investment plan that is intended to accelerate the development and deployment of clean energy technology, including renewable energy. The EPIC Program plans to invest \$162 million a year in this effort, with \$15 million designated to fund market facilitation, which includes regulatory assistance and streamlining. Examples of regulatory relief could come in the form of a programmatic approach that simplifies the discretionary permit process, including allowing specific renewable projects to occur with a ministerial review. Additionally, the County sponsored legislation in the form of AB 2161 (Achadjian) that that would allow the County to compete for a funding as a “qualified county” to further streamline the process for solar energy facility projects. If appropriated, there may be up \$7,000,000 of funding available for “qualified counties” to apply for statewide. It appears that there is likely to be outside funding available to finance a County led initiative in order for the Board to direct staff to prioritize removal of regulatory barriers to incentivize development and deployment of future SEFs or renewable energy.

Implementation of the COSE and EnergyWise Plan

As can be seen from the preceding Comprehensive Energy Strategy Report, many of the energy policies and programs of the COSE and the measures in the EWP are currently being implemented.

Staff recommends that your Board direct staff to continue these current efforts and begin implementing the following greenhouse gas reduction measures in the EWP, as described below. These measures are intended to continue as long as funding is available. They were among the implementation measures considered by your Board earlier this year.

Measure 1 - Energy Efficiency Programs

Task underway: Continue collaboration with utility partners and others to develop and implement energy efficiency programs.

Measure 3 - Energy Efficiency Financing

Task underway: Continue energy efficiency financing programs and participate in new and expanded programs such as EnergyWatch and Empower Central Coast.

Measure 4 - Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings

Task underway: Seek grant funding to subsidize home energy audits in coordination with Measure 3 (financing).

Measure 8 - Community Forestry Programs

Proposed tasks: Collaborate with County Parks and other entities to develop and implement tree planting programs in parks and other open space areas. Include community-specific greening programs in communities during community plan updates. The County should work with organizations such as One Cool Earth and the Land Conservancy to develop and implement these programs.

Measure 9 - Countywide Energy Collaborative

Tasks underway: Increase participation in EnergyWatch Partnership (as funding increases). Work with utilities to establish other local energy-related programs such as public agency energy efficiency programs.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The Administrative Office, General Services Agency and the Department Planning and Building collaborated and coordinated on the Comprehensive Energy Strategy and the development of this report. Public Works is a participant on the EnergyCOI. The cities in the County are part of the Energy Watch Partnership. We are collaborating with the Counties of Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Ventura to bring an Empower Central Coast program to San Luis Obispo County. The County will continue to work with PG&E, So Cal Gas, the California Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission, as well as the Economic Vitality Corporation.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The 2012-2013 fiscal year budget includes \$55,000 to develop and begin implementation of plan for marketing efforts in support of the energy programs. Current staff resources will be used to continue implementation of preceding measures 1, 3, 4, and 9. The new measure to be implemented, Measure 8 - Community Forestry Programs, would be accomplished within the existing Department budget in cooperation with the Parks Division of the General Services Agency. Grant funding will continue to be used for those programs that are funded in that manner and additional grant funding will be pursued where appropriate. Any rebates available to the County for energy efficiency will be pursued.

RESULTS

This report provides the Board and public with information about the efforts the County is making in the energy efficiency and renewable arena. Providing direction to staff on implementation of the EWP measures as outlined in this report will allow for efforts toward meeting the target for greenhouse gas emission reduction as set through the adopted COSE to be continued. All of these efforts will support the Community-wise Results of a safe, healthy, livable, prosperous and well governed community.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Exhibit A - Detailed list of retrofit projects completed on County facilities
2. Exhibit B – County Energy Programs Summary